SIERRA CLUB Yodeler

Vol. XV June 1, 1953 Number 11

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

We have composed a new letter to send to sponsors of prospective members of the Sierra Club. There were several objections to the old letter. One being that we have heard from members who were frankly miffed when asked, "How long have you known the applicant?", when said applicant was the sponsor's charming daughter.

Also, many of the old timers thought we were asking for a verification of their signature, or implying in an insidious way that they weren't quite capable of knowing a good prospective Sierra Club member when they saw one.

In working out a new letter, the Membership Committee had a long discussion about the meaning of sponsorship. We decided that when you sign your name on a membership application, it means that you are inviting a friend to join.

Our Committee wants to extend a welcome to him or her and help them to get acquainted and to take part in activities. We can do this best if you assist by telling us of their particular interests in your reply to our letter. Then we can give their names to the activity chairmen or trip leaders in order that they may be watched for and welcomed. If they have any skills which would be helpful to any of the Club's functions, we want to know that also. A person can become part of the group very quickly if it is known that he is a good campfire leader or that he is a botanist interested in conservation.

Most of the new members we have met have been eager to help, but didn't know to whom they should offer their services. If we know about them from you, we will be glad to (Cont. p.2.)

TRINITY ALPS BECKON

There are still a few reservations open for the one-week Trinity Alps Knapsack trip, starting June 27.

Could you ask for any better way to spend a week in the mountains? The scenery is imcomparable. The area is rife with many varieties of wild flowers. The fishing is something to look forward to.

The Trinity Alps are in the northern part of the Coast Range. They were the lower terminus of glaciation in that region, and consequently the peaks and valleys are beautifully sculpted from granite. Truly "the Little Sierra." Exquisite glacial lakes and waterfalls dot the landscape. The streams will all be running full. What is more enjoyable than sitting by a rushing stream and watching the water boil over rocks and logs?

This is the trip for those who want to knapsack for a short time without the headaches of planning a trip. The trip is designed to fill the needs of those who want knapsacking in small doses (one week) or who have already spent part of their vacation in the snow.

The group willbe congenial and interesting. Campfires and trail days will prove very stimulating.

Time is fleeting away, so decide to go quickly, and rush your trip fee to the Club office immediately. Reservation deadline is June 20! --Kyle D. Corson

YODELER GOURMET GUIDE

In response to our appeal in the last issue for your suggestions on places to eat along the highways and byways frequented by Sierrans, we have heard from quite a few people, but we'd like to have postcards from more of you before printing the Gourmet Guide in the final issue before summer. Deadline is June 15.

SIERRA CLUB YODELER

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Next Deadline:
Monday, June 15, 1953, 6 p.m.

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CORRECTION, PLEASE

Suggestions for Clean-up Rangers should go to the Superintendent of Yosemite National Park, not to Dick Leonard as stated in the last Yodeler.

(Cont. from page 1) look them up. A cheerful "no" from them will be quite acceptable.

This brings up a question that many have blushed to ask, "What if someone asks you to sponsor him, and you have never laid eyes on him?" One of the purposes of the new sponsors' letter is to give you the courage to say "not now" and to invite the applicant to participate in more activities and become better acquainted before becoming a member.

Sponsorship carries some responsibility, and we blush to find sponsors writing that they thought this applicant was "a cute blonde who was on the trip last week end, but I don't know anything about her."!

We are grateful to receive replies within a month of our mailing. This will assure your friends of a warm welcome which we hope will increase their enjoyment of the Club.

Some have asked why we list the new applicants in the Yodeler. We do this because we want to hear any and all comments anyone cares to make regarding them, before they are elected to membership.

--Charlotte England, Chairman Membership Committee

MOUNTAINEARS HEAR-

Ken McCready writes from Grenoble, France that he has gained the summits of Le Col due Lautaret (2,052 meters) and La Col d'Allas (2,250 meters) via his bicycle. He plans to see the Swiss Alps in July.

NATURAL SCIENCE SECTION

Friday, June 19, 7:45 p.m. Room 360, Mills Tower. "Trees of the Sierra." This is really our "guinea pig" night, in which we shall try out a new program on ourselves and anyone else we can lure to the meeting. Teachers, scout leaders and others have often asked for programs from our own slide collection, but they are seldom able to use it, because no special programs have been selected. This will be our first public appearance with a popular but scientific program of slides on the Trees of the Sierra. We invite all youth group leaders and others interested in seeing good slides to enjoy and make suggestions on the program, which will be available for loan. Our members who have worked on the project, Neva Snell, Lois and Rudy Fink, and Joanne Taylor, are arranging a special written narration to accompany the slides.

Field Trip. None scheduled, but after finals and other problems are settled, we may be able to arrange a trip in late June. Come to the meeting on the 19th, at which we will make plans for the trip.

May Meeting. An unlucky Friday! We do want to thank Alice Higgins for showing her fine slides of the Southwest on May 15. Alice needed the patience of Job to turn an evening of frustration into a success. We owe her and the audience our apologies for the difficulties caused by short circuits, a borrowed screen which proved quite inadequate, and other general problems of that evening.

YOLLA BOLLY MADE EASY

The Loma Prieta Chapter reports that its Schedule shows a car camping trip for June 13 and 14 instead of a joint knapsacking venture with the Bay Chapter. For those interested more in seeing this isolated and scenic area than in packing through it, the L-P version sounds interesting: Meet Saturday at 3 p.m. in front of the tavern at Paskenta, drive 14 miles to Whitlock Camp (improved) for overnight. Sunday at 9 a.m. drive 25 miles to Ovenlid Camp via Ball Rock road and from there hike 8 miles round trip to South Yolla Bolly (8,083 feet) via Square Lake (trout fishing) and Long Lake. Leader is Sam French, GArfield 1-9000, ext. 2708.

NEWS FROM CARMEL

The campaign to preserve Carmel Beach as a State Park was begun six years ago and is now drawing close to a successful conclusion. Forty acres are already purchased, including most of the lagoon, and all the north end of the beach. Sixty acres on the south half of the beach are under condemnation proceedings. We congratulate Francis Whitaker and his associates who have carried this effort to success.

A large area of Bixby Creek, just ten miles south of Carmel Highlands, has also been purchased. It is not known what area of beach or of inland canyon is included in this, but it looks like good camping on the way to Big Sur.

A front page article on Philip Hyde appeared in this week's issue of the Carmel Pine Cone. Editor Wilma Cook, Sierra Club member herself, gave Phil a fine write-up, published one of his Dinosaur photographs at the top, and put in a good plug for the preservation of that National Monument too. --CMC

SCOUTS WANTED

The scouts who set out to explore the Beaver Glade knapsack trip did not ful- [illegible] their mission, so instead they took a [illegible] on the world-famed Skunk, a little [illegible] aged by the California Western [illegible] which runs between Fort Bragg [illegible] along the banks of the Noyo [illegible]

[illegible] ndering why we got so far aw[illegible] asket Meadows and Beaver Glade. Ne[illegible] day, the scouting party tried to [illegible] to its responsibilities, but wa[illegible] ked by snow. It is still winter time in the mountains of Mendocino National Forest. There were no alternate trips we could scout, so we headed for Fort Bragg and the train ride.

Therefore the Beaver Glade Knapsackers' special will be an exploring trip on the week end of June 20 and 21. We envision it as one big scouting party. Many people have been wishing that they could go scouting -- well here is their chance -- if we can get in. The road to Plasket Meadows will be open at that time. If that looks unpromising, we might try the Black Butte River. We have heard that Plasket Meadows is a beautiful place, but it may not be for long, as lumber operations are approaching. Therefore, we recommend your joining us on the grand scouting trip of Beaver Glade. The Ranger says this is the most scenic part of the forest, with lots of fine fishing. Call leaders for driving directions.

Needless to say, the scouting party did not feel at all tired.

--R.F. Monges, Jr.

BOATSMEN ATTENTION!

Foldboaters, canoeists, car campers, rock collectors and photographers are all welcome to come to the Mokelumne River on June 13-14.

Here is a trip which will provide excitement for experienced foldboaters and an interesting and safe introduction to foldboating for beginners. It is expected that those without boats will have ample opportunity to join in various runs throughout the week end. We anticipate a flow of approximately 2500 cfs during both days.

Everyone is welcome to come along. We need people to drive cars, etc. However, do not plan to go on the river if you do not swim. In the interest of safety all craft must be equipped with floats (air mattresses or inner tubes in ends of crafts will serve), and each occupant must wear a life preserver.

The campsite will be at Camanche on the north side of the river, east of Camanche bridge. To get there take Highway 50 out of Stockton to Highway 88. Go right on 88 to Clements; continue easterly from Clements to Camanche; left on Buena Vista road to and across the bridge; left and around under bridge to campsite.

The river distances are as follows: Penn Mine (at Campo Seco) to Camanche - five miles (swift); Camanche to Clements - nine miles (medium) and Clements to Lockeford - five miles (easy).

Bring foldboat, kayak or canoe, if you have one. Also bring usual camping equipment and water-proof covers for cameras. Don't forget sunburn lotion. Commissary is by private cars.

Those who want a full week end of running should assemble at the campsite at 9 a.m. Saturday. Otherwise, join the group at any time during the week-end.

Leaders: Martha and Porter Baker, PIedmont 5-6063R, 6441 Colby Street, Oakland. Please let us know if you can offer or need a ride and whether you are bringing a boat, and when you plan arrival. -Bruce Grant

LET'S KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY!
Any Club member connected with a letter shop is urged to contact the Yodeleditor about handling Yodeler mimeographing.

A REPORTER REPORTS

It's astounding! We sat in on a Sierra Club Conservation Committee meeting on May 21 and came away dumbfounded at the tremendous scope of conservation projects on which the Committee has its eye. To an outsider untutored in the devious ways of interest groups, the meeting was an eye-opener--as well as a rapid armchair tour of our precious Western wilderness.

Consider... in two hours the Committee members discussed impending legislation and rulings on Lake Elsinor and Joshua Tree National Monument in Southern California, the Alabama Hills region, Emigrant Creek Basin, Dinosaur National Monument, and the Arctic Wilderness. But that's not all. There was discussion on Condors, the Palace of Fine Arts, revision of mining laws, Mitchell Caverns, hunting in state parks, movie people in state parks, destruction of redwood trees, the clean camp campaign, and stock grazing in National Forests. We were somewhat panic-stricken. How could this group of people possibly keep informed on all the activities of state and federal legislatures;and how could it hope to fight the steady flow of damaging legislation-- proposed laws that seem so innocent to the uninformed. We don't know how they do it, but the Committee members are cognizant of one destructive line in a bill that's pages long. And they don't just hash over "a rumor to the effect that"...they're thoroughly informed on all the ramifications of potentially dangerous bills.

The next time you look at your Chapter Schedule to check on a trip, read the legend on the cover which outlines the Purposes of the Sierra Club. The Conservation Committee helps transform those from talked-about ideals to active realities, for which we and future generations are grateful.

--WN

OPPORTUNITY FOR HONEYMOON?

Do you know anyone, (male, or couple preferred) interested in a custodian's job at Tuolumne Meadows this summer? If you do, please have them contact Larry Burnley at LAndscape 4-4742 evenings, or inquire through the Club offices in San Francisco, YUkon 2-2822.

ANNUAL STAFF WING DING

Save Thursday, June 18, for the Yodeler party. Scene of festivities: 15 Arlington Court, Kensington, Berkeley.

A PLEA AND A CHALLENGE TO SUNDAY HIKERS

It is time to start plans for the fall Schedule, and it is the sincere wish of the Committee to schedule hikes which will be to your liking, be they long hikes, short hikes, rugged ones, or easy ones. It occurred to me that there are possibly any number of Sunday hikers who would be glad to lead a hike of their own choice.

Here is your opportunity to do a good turn for the Local Walks, and at the same time fulfill your own desire of tramping the trail you like best. Please write up in detail the hike you wish to lead on any Sunday in September, October, November or December, and mail it to me, Lillian A. Johnson, 891 Post Street, San Francisco. I shall be happy indeed to include it in our next Schedule, deadline of which is early July.

CLUB ROOMS EXHIBIT FOR MAY AND JUNE

One of the Chicago members of the Sierra Club, Edward C. Porter, supplied our exhibit for May and June.

Mountaineering is his chief enthusiasm, and the pictures in the Club Rooms were taken on trips to the Selkirks in British Columbia, and the Canadian Rockies. He has won several prizes for his photographs, two at the annual photographic contest held by the Canadian Alpine Club in 1951.

The first photograph in the exhibit entitled "The Door" is most unusual and outstanding.

Mr. Porter has been taking pictures of mountains for only six years, but he has quickly learned to capture their grandeur and beauty. --Edith R. Morison

MOUNTAINEARS HEAR

Wedding bells rang for John Moran and Roberta Colaw on May 31.

Frances Hussey Jacobs writes, "this country life is the 'ne plus ultra'! I'm all for it!" (So are we.) She's taking life easy in her new abode at 1375 Davis Avenue in Concord.

When you're chatting with Transportation Coordinators, try for a ride in Betty Osborn's '53 Plymouth, Walt Oppenheimer's '53 Chevrolet, or Don Rehbein's '53 Pontiac Catalina. Don stopped in at the Lodge on his way home from Detroit to show off his proud purchase.

TAPPAAN TOPICS

Now that the Coronation's over and Cook John Quinn has come back down to the 7000-foot level, work parties can be assured of being well-fed! If you're interested in free lodging and meals (and such meals!) in return for your help on Lodge improvement and maintenance, give Jim Mulholland a call at TEmplebar 2-1796 after 6:30 p.m. He'll be glad to talk to you!

If you just want to see the Lodge...

include the Chartered Bus Trip on your June calendar. Scheduled for June 27-28, the week end will feature the first outdoor barbecue of the summer season, short and long hikes, folk dancing, movies, and just plain loafing. Be sure to have your reservation in at the Sierra Club office by Wednesday, June 24. Check your Schedule for more details.

Speaking of movies...

the Lodge now boasts a bona fide "projection booth". There will be no more pushing tables and people around before movies can be shown--the projectionist will just slide into the closet in the dining room and flick on the projector. [illegible] sit back and enjoy the [illegible].

[illegible] the calendar. That's what the snow's doing. Fresh snow fell every day during the last week of May and they're still skiing at Squaw!

--WN

YODELEDITOR

For the past three years, two people have driven my carry-all and trailer between Bishop and the road head bringing in supplies for the John Muir Trail trips. I need such a team this year from July 9 to August 30. Any two people can do it--men, women (with adequate car know-how), or a couple. It could be done by one, but I prefer to have two for car shuttling possibilities. It requires 1-1½ days per week, and the rest of the time is free for personal jaunts or camping. Anyone who is interested may contact me at 1940 Hearst Avenue, Berkeley 9, or call AShberry 3-6157.

--Joe Wampler

REPORT FROM JAPAN

Helene Glass is still covering Japan for the Yodeler. Some of the choice tidbits from her last letter are appended.

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She is still getting around--a post card shows a tree-draped rest home with Mt. Fuji for a backdrop. These people overseas always seem to be resting. Maybe it is from too many trout fishing expeditions.

--

Indefatigable Helene has set her eyes on the top of Mt. Fujiyama, and there will be no stopping her once the snow melts and the routes open up in July or August. Let's hope she comes back loaded with pictures of her many excursions in that fascinatingly quaint land.

--

The newspapers have complete coverage of the various mountain climbing expeditions. The articles say that the Everest group is trying for a Coronation "gift" for the Queen.

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Helene's description of the Japanese is very apropos to Americans--on week ends the city slickers all converge on the seaside resorts--bumper to bumper traffic both ways. Sounds familiar.

--

Travelling by train seems to be a problem. You never know when to get off unless you can read or speak Japanese.

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At hotels you must leave your shoes outside and wear kimonoes inside. They charge $6.00 a night for the privilege too.

--

How would you like to pass a bus on a 1½-lane road hanging over a cliff?

--

The seaside towns are very picturesque--fish and nets drying in the sun. A scene right out of Van Gogh.

--

The hills are reminiscent of our coast ranges, but on a smaller scale. They even log these molehills.

BARGAIN! BARGAIN! BARGAIN!

Helene Glass has a matched pair of baby-blue "Pringle" Cashmere sweaters, size 32--one cardigan, and one slipover. Both for $25. Price them anywhere. No duty. Helene pays for shipping. Airmail Helene at CPS-AG-USAFFE, APO 343, PM, San Francisco.

THE TALUS TANGLE

On the night of May 16, 1953, some 80 odd rock climbers went to dinner and stuffed themselves. Fortunately a program, under the hand of capable master of ceremonies Bob Swift, followed the excellent meal, so that folk, square and social dancing was appreciated later to an extent that would have been impossible earlier.

The delightful program started off with the classic pie-eating contest, won by Dick Long, whose pleasure on receiving his prize will long be remembered by members of the Section. Later (that is, while Hunter Morrison and others kindly did the dishes) we were treated to a showing of Will Siri's movies of the 1952 Peruvian expedition, sparked by the lucid narration of Al Steck.

Ron Hahn was general chairman and co-ordinator, assisted by Millie Jentsch and Glenn Cushman.

Mary Ruth Nelson and Millie Jentsch, as food committee chairmen, had capable helpers in Dave Nelson, George Bloom, Margie Fischer, Alice Jensen, and many others.

Clever decorations were the offerings of Joan Firey, Marguerite Dorsey and Pat Bernard, and Marj Dunmire was responsible for the designing and producing of the "Talus Tangle" tickets. Orchids to all for a successful dinner-dance.

--Kay Cushman

PLANTATION

The week end of May 23-24 gave the car campers a variety of weather. On arrival Saturday noon the lush grass in the meadow which was the campsite was quite "dewy" from rain the previous night. All was fine until the campfire after dinner was abruptly broken up by rain. Fortunately the group had had time to listen to Mr. A. B. Crittenden, the owner of "Plantation," very interestingly give us the history of the property and tell of the children's camp which he and his wife conduct each summer, and answer questions. Several of our number accepted Mr. Crittenden's offer and slept in the barn. We understand a few people helped with milking and other chores in the morning.

Sunday lived up to its name long enough to allow for breakfasting and cleaning up, then the downpour and hike started simultaneously.

--Anon.

MORE PARK OPENINGS, PLEASE

The bus trip was cancelled from lack of interest, but when the Sunday hike was changed to a Key System and private car trip, numerous people appeared at Mills College, the starting point.

The view from the top of the East Oakland hills was unobstructed by fog or haze and presented a sweeping picture of a fairy-book bay with model cities around the shores. There were beautiful cloud formations overhead.

Down in the new Grass Valley park area we hiked on recently-graded fire roads that ran through grassy meadows. The rain came and went at intervals but was never very serious except that it kept us from stopping to eat. It was past noon and we were in the mood for food when a ranger changed our plans by telling us that there were free lunches at the top of the hill. It was 1:30 before we reached the food line, but we found energy enough left to stand in it and collect a box lunch, orange drink, coffee, beer and ice cream. It was not a lunch, but more like a cold plate dinner, with ham, turkey, veal, potato salad, cranberry sauce and apple pie. All of this and a horse show of fancy and trick riding, too. They even square danced on horseback.

The Horseman's Association, which was responsible for this banquet, is looking for new members. You need not have a horse to be a member. You don't even have to look like one. For that matter, there were some beautiful horses on display Sunday.

Highlights of the trip back were: a buzzing mound of swarming bees on a limb near the trail, a dinner snack (our own lunches) while we basked in the late afternoon sun, and worry over a missing hiker who was separated from us. She was probably luckier than the rest because she was given a ride down and didn't have to nurse the "bloody stumps" as many of us did who walked the whole 16 (?) miles. It was a good hike and we hope Dick Monges and Frank Hausmann havr more "openings" in mind.

--Phoebe Woodruff

FOR SALE

Size 8 Johnson's Hockey Ice Skates, never been used - $12. Call Lorraine Rogers during day at Varian Associates, DAvenport 5-5631, Ext. 340 or after 5 p.m. JUno 8-2977.